## Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: APOU, CGEN, PFOR, UR, US

SUBJECT: CONSULAR REVIEW - DIPLOMATIC POUCHES

REF: (A) MOSCOW 8601 (B) MOSCOW 8220 (C) MOSCOW 8152

1. DESPITE NUMEROUS QUERIES TO SOVEMBASSY, THEY HAVE NOT YET TOLD US THE NATURE OF THEIR POUCH PROBLEMS IN SAN FRANCISCO AND NEW YORK. DEPARTMENT HAS LEARNED FROM OTHER SOURCES THAT SOVIET DIPLOMATIC COURIERS ARRIVING NY FROM OTTAWA APPARENTLY DO NOT UNLOAD DIPLOMATIC POUCHES DIRECTLY FROM CARGO SECTION OF AIRCRAFT, RATHER COURIERS RECEIVE POUCHES FROM CARGO TERMINAL OF ATRLINF AFTER GOING THROUGH CUSTOMS FORMALITIES. SIMILAR PROCEDURE SEEMS TO BE IN EFLIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 STATE 150562

FECT IN SAN FRANCISCO. AS FAR AS WE CAN DETERMINE, SOVIETS DO NOT SEND ANY POUCHES UNACCOMPANIED TO NEW YORK AND SAN FRANCISCO FROM OTTAWA AND MEXICO.

2. OFFICIALS FROM BOTH NY AND SAN FRANCISCO INDICATED THAT SOME SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS COULD POSSIBLY BE MADE DIRECTLY WITH AIRLINES OR NY PORT AUTHORITY TO ALLOW SOVIETS

ON FIELD UNDER ESCORT. THIS WOULD TAKE EXTENSIVE EFFORT ON OUR PART, HOWEVER. FYI: IT IS EVEN DIFFICULT TO GET SUCH ACCESS FROM PORT AUTHORITY IN NY FOR DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVES TO LOAD U.S. UNACCOMPANIED DIPLOMATIC MAIL DIRECTLY ON AIRCRAFT IN NY. END FYI.

3. WILL CONTINUE TO QUERY SOVEMBASSY ON THIS QUESTION AND WILL ADVISE ASAP. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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